

Office of Childhood 2023

Read more about past success stories and the creation of the office here.



145

child care providers received funds to expand their programs, expected to add 3.971 slots

Child Care Relief Funds

309

child care providers received funds to start up a new child care program, expected to add 13,051 slots 1,510

child care providers received funds for retention of their staff

Workforce

Launched the new Missouri Professional Development System allowing users to track credentials, requirements, qualifications, records, trainings, and career progression

Proposed new rules for 16 & 17 year olds to work in child care settings and for teacher qualifications in state-funded prekindergarten programs

Child Care Subsidy

Launched new system for families to apply for child care assistance Increased provider reimbursement rates to the 58th percentile of the market rate Contracted with Wonderschool to provide free training and support for child care providers

Quality Programs

30

new online trainings for child care providers developed by Mizzou Academy

Outreach

Helped facilitate multiple listening sessions to gather feedback on new systems and customer experiences

12,108

Early Connections stakeholders who receive email updates, including Childhood Connections a monthly e-newsletter

Child Care

14,626

background screening determination letters issued for current or prospective child care staff members, with an average turnaround time of 2-3 days

91% prospective child care staff determined eligible to work or be present in a child

care facility

8%
were determined temporarily eligible with pending out-of-state checks

1%

were determined ineligible

5,293

child care slots funded through Missouri Quality Prekindergarten (MOQPK) Grants 174

21st Century Community Learning Center and School-Age Community Grant sites serving children from kindergarten to high school



Early Intervention

Established first ever First Steps Provider Cohort, initiated quarterly statewide Missouri American Academy of Pediatrics (MOAAP) meetings, and started Family Stakeholder group

10

physicians and medical professionals attended meetings with MOAAP and OOC staff 16

providers joined First Steps Provider Cohort 20

parents interested in participating in the Family Stakeholder group

1%

more capacity in regulated child care facilities

98%

of providers reported that OOC staff applied the rules and laws during inspections 99%

of providers stated their Compliance Inspector listens and responds to questions **Home Visiting**

1

9%

more developmental screenings for young children 1

55%

more families receiving abuse/ neglect prevention **4**

8%

more mothers screened for depression

www.earlyconnections.mo.gov

www.dese.mo.gov/childhood

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